Wind power blows into Union City

Union City Indiana makes history

Updated: Tuesday, 19 Jan 2010, 5:35 PM EST Published: Tuesday, 19 Jan 2010, 5:32 PM EST

Randolph Eastern School Corporation and Union City Indiana have become the first community in the nation to have a wind turbine project produce energy for both a school and the city.



"It's really cool, it makes me excited. Its really tall, my grandmas house is right over here so we'll get to see it a lot." said Landry Zimmers a student in the Randoph Eastern School System. And Landry isn't kidding. The two 330 foot high, one megawatt Nordic wind power turbines will not only be noticeable to visitors but also help shape a community.

The whole project started off with one teacher pushing for solar panels and a small turbine to help teach his class science and math but along the way the project snowballed, possibly influencing the state, and perhaps even one day the nation.

"A lot of people in Indiana are going to say.. How could a small community do this, and we partnered with our school and we are doing this hand in hand at the same time creating for these kids an opportunity for something to pay off for their future as well." said Mayor Bryan Conklin of Union City, IN.

That project is also helping to fuel the local college up in Union City. They are hoping to begin offering up to 13 credits of Alternative Energy Classes in the next year.